

Message Text

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APPROVED BY: EB/IFD/ODF-MR GELBARD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 240049

FOR ASSISTANT FINANCIAL ATTACHE

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON MONTERREY GUADALAJARA
NUEVO LAREDO TIJUANA HERMOSILLO MAZATLAN CIUDAD JUAREZ MERIDA
MATAMOROS FROM MEXICO DEC 5

QUOTE

UNCLAS MEXICO 9139

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, MX

SUBJ: UK BANKS OFFER 150 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN FOR FISHING
VESSEL CONSTRUCTION

1. MEXICAN PRESS ON DECEMBER 5 REPORTED THAT A GROUP OF ENGLISH
BANKS HEADED BY WILLIAM BRAND'S SONS HAS GRANTED 150 MILLION
DOLLAR CREDIT TO MEXICO TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN
UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF FISHING VESSELS, INCLUDING AT LEAST
18 TUNABOATS, EACH WITH A 700 TON CAPACITY. ACCORDING TO THE
PRESS THE FIRST THREE TUNABOATS WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE US.
AND A SPECIAL MEXICAN TEAM WILL BE VISITING TACOMA, WASHINGTON
IN THE NEAR FUTURE WITH A VIEW TOWARD NEGOTIATING THE
SHIP CONSTRUCTION, AND FOR THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED TO CONSTRUCT THE REMAINDER OF THE TUNA-
BOATS IN MEXICAN SHIPYARDS.

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2. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS HAILED IN 'EXCELSIOR' (INFLUENTIAL, LEFT-WING MEXICO CITY DAILY) AS BRAKING THE "BOYCOTT" ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF TUNABOATS FOR MEXICO WHICH HAD ALLEGEDLY BEEN MOUNTED BY THE US. TUNA INDUSTRY. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE DURING THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA TO GUAYMAS, SONORA, BY LIC. JORGE MARTINEZ DEL CAMPO, DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT, WHICH WILL COORDINATE THE PROGRAM. APPARENTLY, MANY OF THE NEW SHIPS TO BE CONSTRUCTED WILL BE TURNED OVER TO FISHING COOPERATIVES.
MCBRIDE
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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